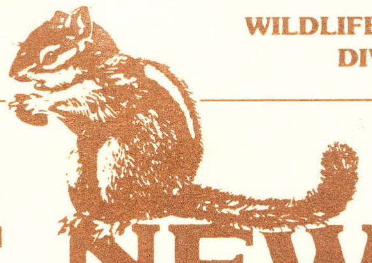
WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

WILDLIFE RESOURCES
DIVISION



WEST VIRGINIA NONGAME NEWS

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 4

FALL 1985

Wild Edible Mushrooms of West Virginia

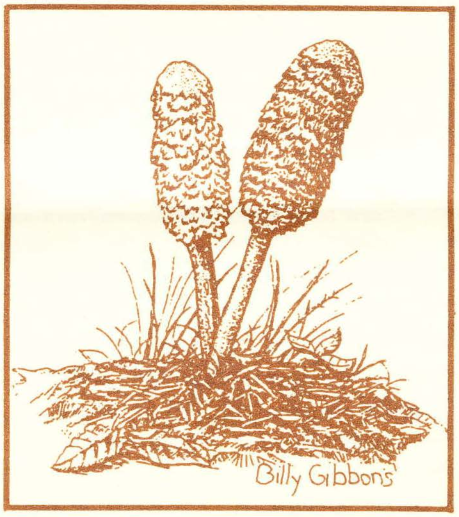
By Garrie Rouse, DNR Botanist

With the coming of fall we generally resign ourselves to the fact that yet another growing season has ended. However, as the leaves begin to turn, a new "flush" of diversity is just emerging. A careful search through the understory after a good fall rain will reveal an inconspicuous yet diverse assemblage of mushrooms of all imaginable shapes and colors. Rivaling spring wildflower displays in their variety, these fungi can provide the nature enthusiast with a new field upon which to focus his or her attention.

For the experienced amateur, the hunting of fall mushrooms takes on additional meaning as some of these fungi represent "choice" edibles. Providing some very unique flavors, wild mushrooms are used in salads and sauces, as a main ingredient in casseroles and omelettes, or simply sauteed in butter and eaten by themselves.

Several different groups of fungi are represented among the wild edible mushrooms of West Virginia. By far the most common are the "gilled mushrooms" which, as indicated by the name, bear their spores on gills located on the undersurface of the cap. Many of our well known mushrooms belong to this group, including such edibles as "shaggymane" (*Coprinus comatus*), "oyster mushroom" (*Pleurotus ostreatus*), and "meadow mushroom" (*Agaricus campestris*) - a close relative of the kind found in grocery stores.

The "boletes" represent another common group of fall mushrooms. They differ in that they have pores instead of gills beneath their caps. Many good edibles can be found in this group including "slippery Jack" (*Suillus luteus*) and "king bolete" (*Boletus edulis*). Although they tend not to hold their texture very well upon cooking, boletes have very distinctive flavors and are especially good in dips and for use as seasonings.



The "puffballs" are another group containing members which make for good eating. They differ from other mushrooms in that their spores are born in large masses on the inside of the fruiting body. Puffballs tend to have a very strong flavor which is delicious to some and disagreeable for others. The "giant puffball" (*Calvatia gigantea*) is perhaps the largest of all edible fungi, sometimes attaining a size of well over a foot in diameter.

In addition to the above mentioned species, there are a number of other delectable mushrooms. Among these are included the "chanterelles" (*Cantharellus* spp.), "bear's head tooth fungus" (*Hericium coralloides*) and "sulphur mushrooms" (*Polyporus sulphureus*) to name a few. These and others represent the rewards which await those who seek wild edible mushrooms among the woods and fields during the fall season.

While the various groups discussed (whether gilled mushrooms, boletes or puffballs) contain some very delicious mushrooms, they each harbor poisonous species as well. In most cases, eating these poisonous species will only cause temporary gastrointestinal upset. There are several species, however, which can be deadly, the most notorious of which are the "amanitas" (*Amanita* spp.). Bearing such names as "destroying angel" and "death cap," these fungi can produce a very slow and painful death if ingested.

The consumption of any mushroom should never be attempted without complete confidence as to its identity. The place to start, then, is in learning to recognize the various kinds, whether poisonous or non-poisonous. Two excellent guides for West Virginia are *Mushrooms of North America* by Orson K. Miller, Jr., and the Audubon Society's *Field Guide to North American Mushrooms* by Gary H. Lincoff. So as the leaves begin to change, turn your attention to the forest floor and take a careful look underfoot.

Nongame Wildlife Fund

Although no one wishes to be reminded of it, the 1985 Tax season is fast approaching. Please remind your family and friends to DO SOMETHING WILD! and check-off line 8 on the 1985 State Income Tax Form. If you are not receiving a refund this year but wish to contribute, a check or money order may be sent to the Nongame Wildlife Fund, 1800 Washington Street, East, Charleston, WV 25305.

Endangered Species Notes

•The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has begun a status review of the ivory-billed woodpecker to determine if the bird is extinct and should be removed from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. There have been no confirmed sightings of the bird since the early 1950's.

The ivory-bill is the largest North American woodpecker, averaging 20 inches in length. It is often confused with the smaller pileated woodpecker, which is about 17 inches long. Besides its size, the ivory-bill can be distinguished from the pileated by a large white triangular patch that shows across the lower back while resting, and large bill the color of pale ivory. The bill of the pileated is black.

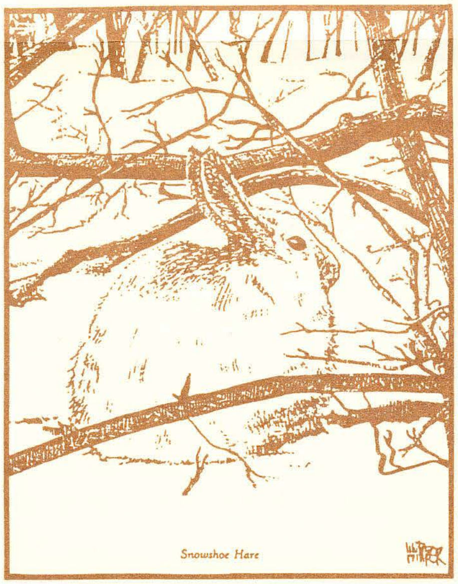
While probably never common, the ivory-billed woodpecker occupied bottomland hardwood and swamp forests throughout the southeast. A few historic records exist in West Virginia, but the bird was most likely only an occasional visitant. The primary reason for its decline is the loss of suitable habitat consisting of large stands of mature or virgin forests. Apparently young trees do not provide enough of the insects required for their diet.

--Endangered Species Technical Bulletin Vol. X No. 5 (1985)

•As a result of a suit filed by the National Wildlife Federation on June 14, 1985 a federal judge has ordered the U.S. Department of Interior (USDI) to ban the use of leadshot for waterfowl hunting in parts of 5 states in order to protect our Nation's symbol, the endangered bald eagle.

The eagles are poisoned when they eat waterfowl that have either ingested or have lead shot imbedded in their bodies. The USDI has documented the death of at least 102 bald eagles due to lead poisoning since 1966. In 1984 alone, 24 eagles died.

Areas will be open to hunters, however, if states require the use of nontoxic steel shot. Twenty-two counties in California, Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma and Oregon are affected by the decision.



Snowshoe Hare

Allegheny Vistas

Allegheny Vistas is an organization dedicated to educational endeavors in the field of conservation and preservation. Based in Kanawha County, their major goal is to record the environmental and ecological history of the Allegheny area of Appalachia. To date, the organization has published two books - *Potomac Headspring* and more recently, *The High Alleghenies-The Drama and Heritage of Three Centuries.* Their current project involves field and library research in preparation for writing an environmental history of the Kanawha Valley to coincide with the bicentennial observance of the founding of Kanawha County.

J. Lawrence Smith, Executive Director of Allegheny Vistas and author of both books, has graciously offered to donate $5 to the WV Nongame Wildlife Program for every copy of *The High Alleghenies* sold. The cost of the 195 page publication is $20. Besides containing information on the geological, historical, and scenic features of the region, Mr. Smith devotes many pages to the unique flora and fauna found in the Alleghenies. The publication also contains over 20 line drawings by Bill Pitzer — many featuring wildlife subjects — and several photographs not previously published elsewhere. J. Lawrence Smith's well-written and interesting account will make an excellent Christmas gift for all with an affinity for the mountains.

Just send in the following order blank with your remittance to:

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P.O. Box 67
Elkins, WV 26241

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Habitat Hint

Now is the time to prepare your bluebird nest boxes to serve as possible winter homes for bluebirds. Some bluebirds will remain on their nesting grounds throughout the winter, while others will move southward. Remove all nest material, but leave some debris in the boxes to provide better insulation for birds seeking refuge from cold nights.

In addition, when insects are not available in the winter, bluebirds will feed on wild fruits and berries. Plantings of pokeberry, bayberry, elderberry, dogwood, or holly will help attract bluebirds to your area.

The Secretive Sora

By Randy Prachar
West Virginia University

This fall, pay attention to the marshes which dot our West Virginia landscape. Perhaps you will be fortunate enough to see the elusive sora, the most common of North America's rails.

The sora, or meadow chicken as it is commonly called, is a greenish brown, robin-sized inhabitant of marshes and swamps. It is best identified by the black facial mask, the white underside of the tail, and short bill, neck and legs. The sora's long toes and small body size enable it to walk delicately on lily pads and floating reeds. It has been seen traveling underwater, running nimbly along the bottom of shallow streams by clinging to aquatic plants.

Seldom seen, the sora is quite secretive in its habits. While maneuvering in dense vegetation to feed, the sora is capable of flattening its body so that it may squeeze between reeds or cattails. The sora prefers to run from danger rather than fly, and is commonly flushed from a short distance away. Two calls are typically heard from the sora: one a whistled "ker-wee;" the other a descending "whinny" of 10 to 15 notes.

Soras rarely nest in West Virginia, but some nesting may occur in northernmost counties. Little is known about the breeding ritual of the sora. Nests are often located in dense cattails and typically have a runway leading up to them. The rather crude nest is constructed of rushes, weeds, and grass and is suspended several inches above the water from cattail stalks.

An average clutch of 10 to 12 rich buffy eggs with irregular reddish brown and grey spots is laid in May. Both males and females share in egg hatching duties which take about two weeks. The all-black young are capable of leaving the nest soon after hatching and are led to the more open portions of the marsh by the parents. Full adult feathering of the young is attained by September, in time for migration.

Soras use freshwater swamps and marshes with dense vegetation for migratory rest stops, as well as for feeding and nesting. Cattail marshes are a favorite habitat, particularly if some short deciduous shrubs and trees are present along the edges. Mud or standing shallow water in marshes and nearby fields are favored sora feeding sites. Soras tend to eat more plant foods than do other rails, particularly during the fall and winter when seed-producing fields may have an abundance of foods. Choice foods include the seeds of bullrush, spike rush, wild millet, rice sedge, and smartweed. Soras consume more animal foods during the spring and summer when aquatic insects, spiders, and snails are abundant.

The weak, labored flight, with feet dangling limply below the body, belies the bird's ability to migrate. In fact, it has one of the longest migration routes of all rails, about 3,000 miles each way. The sora is very sensitive to cold and often invades West Virginia in September and October as a result of frost farther north. Flocks of five to more than 100 birds may migrate through the State at this time.

To see the sora, one must be as secretive as the bird itself. Sit silently by the edge of a wetland area or an opening where the birds feed and you may be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of this elusive, but fascinating creature.

Advisory Council Member

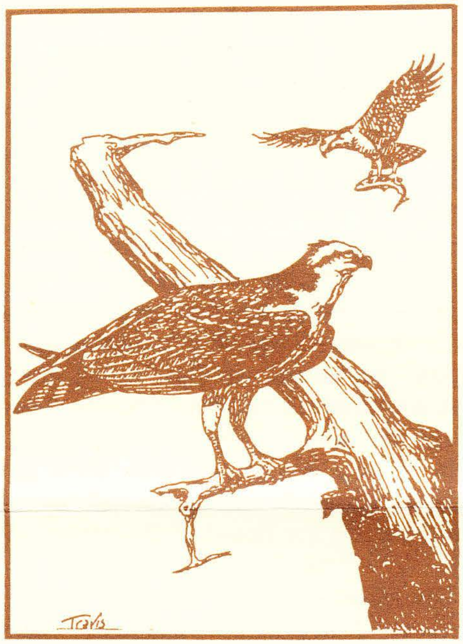
Sheldon Haynes was born in the town of White Sulphur Springs, Greenbrier County, West Virginia. He is a graduate of Duke University in Durham, North Carolina and the College of Law at West Virginia University. Since his graduation in 1935, he has practiced law in Lewisburg, with the exception of 4 years during the Second World War when he served in the Navy. Mr. Haynes has been active in many professional and community affairs, including serving as a member of the Lewisburg City Council, the Board of Governors of the WV State Bar and past president of the Valley Bar Association. In addition, Sheldon was a commissioner of the WV Department of Natural Resources from 1975 to 1982. Currently he is serving as a member of the Board of Directors for the WV State Fair in the capacity of vice president. Mr. Haynes' broad range of interests, experience, and commitment to the preservation of the Mountain State's natural resources make him an invaluable advisor to the Nongame Wildlife Program.

Dragonflies

Do you know the difference between a dragonfly and damselfly? How large is the largest dragonfly? How many different kinds are found in West Virginia? This attractively illustrated and designed publication will answer these questions, and contains much more information besides. Written by Norma Jean Venable in collaboration with Dr. Linda Butler, Professor of Entomology at West Virginia University, this is another educational publication in the WV Wildlife Series published by the West Virginia University Cooperative Extension Service. The cost is just $3.50, postpaid, with checks payable to West Virginia University. Send orders for *Dragonflies* to Norma Jean Venable, Division of Agriculture and Forestry, 406 Knapp Hall, Morgantown, WV 26506-6031.

Still available in this series at the same cost are copies of Winter Birds of WV. Orders may be sent to the above address.

Nongame Project Review



•The Ospreys Fly

The second year of West Virginia's osprey project came to a close August 5 with the fledging of the last of 11 young ospreys. These birds were removed from natural nests in Maryland and Virginia at 5 to 6 weeks of age and placed in artificial nests along the South Branch of the Potomac River in Hampshire County. They were fed and observed by volunteers from the Potomac Valley Audubon Society for four weeks in June and July.

The purpose of this project is to establish a nesting population of ospreys in West Virginia. By transplanting the birds to West Virginia as nestlings, they become imprinted on the area and are thus more likely to return to breed. The eastern panhandle site was chosen because of its proximity to the Chesapeake Bay and its thriving osprey population. Another important factor in choosing this site is the abundance of fish in the South Branch, upon which these predatory birds exclusively depend.

The Nongame Wildlife Program expects to continue annual osprey releases until at least 1990. By that time, some birds should be returning to the area to breed and produce young of their own. Because ospreys do not reach maturity until 2 or 3 years of age, and since survival is relatively poor (less than half live to 2 years of age), several years of releases are required for a reasonable chance of success.

•Wildlife Calendar

The 1985-1986 first edition WV Wildlife Calendar is still available. Supplies are rapidly dwindling, however, so fill out the order form on the back of the newsletter and send it in today.

Planning has already begun for the 1986-1987 Wildlife Calendar. All West Virginia resident artists are invited to submit a 35mm color slide of a painting depicting a native game animal, sport fish or nongame species in its natural habitat. Paintings must be original, capable of photo reduction to 11 inches horizontal by 8½ inches vertical, and not have been previously reproduced. The print should show the natural habitat to the edge of the painting. Slides must be submitted to the Wildlife Resources Division, WV Department of Natural Resources, Elkins Operations Center, P.O. Box 67, Elkins, WV 26241 before February 1, 1986. Judging and selection of paintings will be conducted by personnel of the WV Department of Natural Resources in early February 1986.

The paintings selected will be used only for the calendar and then returned to the artist. A biographical sketch of each artist whose painting is selected will be included in the calendar. Artists are invited to submit as many slides of prints as they wish. For additional details, write to the above address or call (304) 636-1767.

•Amphibians & Reptiles in WV

Soon to be available is a new book entitled *Amphibians and Reptiles in West Virginia*, published by the University of Pittsburgh Press. The publication is being written by Dr. Bayard Green, Professor Emeritus of Zoology at Marshall University and Thomas K. Pauley, Associate Professor of Biology and Chairman of the Natural Sciences Division at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, Pennsylvania. Dr. Green served as a biology professor at Marshall from 1938 until he retired in 1972, and is one of the foremost authorities on the herpetofauna of West Virginia. Dr. Pauley was a professor of biology at Salem College, Salem, West Virginia prior to taking his current position at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford. Dr. Pauley is best known as an authority on the range and ecology of one of West Virginia's rarest salamanders, the Cheat Mountain salamander.

It is hoped that this book will serve to develop a stronger interest and curiosity about living things in our environment, especially amphibians and reptiles. Because only a few species are known for their economic importance, there has been little effort until now to acquaint the public with their value. As a result, few native animals are more persecuted, more misrepresented and less known than our State's amphibians and reptiles. Many of the West Virginia species are so common that a short walk along a forest stream or a woodland path may disclose them, while others are so uncommon that they may never be observed within one's lifetime. There are undoubtedly additional species which still lurk within the wildest regions of our State waiting for the eager herpetologist to discover them.

This pocket-sized manual will be the first comprehensive account of the 85 species of amphibians and reptiles known to occur in West Virginia. It will contain a summary of available information concerning distribution, habitat, seasonal activities and life history data, as well as color photographs to aid in identification. In addition, within this book will be sections which deal with the collection and care of specimens, both living and preserved, to assist the beginner with his or her interest.

The study of amphibians and reptiles can be a fascinating hobby, and a field in which a great deal more information needs to be collected, even for the most common species. Overall, this book is a "must" for West Virginians who wish to learn more about their State's wildlife resources.

Spotted Turtle

BY *Ken Knight*
DNR Biologist

Back in the 1960's it might have been called the "itsy bitsy, teeny weeny yellow polka dot turtle." But nowadays the name spotted turtle, though maybe not as descriptive, will suffice. Scientists call it *Clemmys guttata* from the Greek word *klemmys* (turtle or tortoise) and Latin word *guttatus* (spotted or speckled).

The spotted turtle was the focus of an investigation by the Nongame Wildlife Program during the spring and summer of 1985. Formerly found in at least 3 wetlands in Jefferson and Berkeley counties, the spotted turtle had been reduced to only one small population. Though relatively common in other states, there was concern that this single population could be destroyed, thereby removing this turtle from the State's faunal component. Since its distribution is rather spotty, so to speak, and its habits relatively sedentary, there would be little hope for a natural repopulation of former haunts. Thus, our best insurance was to attempt rein-troduction of the species to a marsh where it occurred previously.

The greatest potential obstacle for a successful reintroduction is the homing tendency of turtles. Studies of spotted turtles by other biologists have documented homing behavior over short distances (less than a mile). The West Virginia study proposed to move the turtles a distance of 5 miles into a different watershed. It was determined that the best method for measuring their tendency to home was through the use of radio-telemetry.

Six spotted turtles from a Jefferson County marsh were fitted with small radio transmitters. These were wired onto the turtles backpack-style. On May 29 the turtles, 2 females and 4 males, were released at another Jefferson County marsh. Biologists at the National Fisheries Center in Leetown located them every few days with the use of a radio receiver which picked up the steady beep-beep-beep signals from the backpack transmitters.

Spotted turtles are the smallest turtle found in West Virginia. Shells of adults captured in the State measured from 3½ to 4 inches long and 2¾ to 3 inches wide. They weighed from 3½ to 6 ounces. The carapace, or top shell, is smooth and black with round yellow spots. The number of spots varies from just a few (sometimes none) to over one hundred. The plastron, or underside shell, is yellow and black and often exhibits annual growth rings which may be counted to determine age. In older individuals the plastron may be worn smooth and growth rings not as apparent. Males have tan chins and brown eyes, and the plastron is slightly concave. Females have yellow chins and orange eyes, and the plastron is flat or slightly convex. There may be a few yellow spots on the head and neck of both sexes.

In the eastern United States, the spotted turtle has two close relatives: the bog turtle (*Clemmys muhlenbergi*) and the wood turtle (*Clemmys insculpta*). The bog turtle is similar in appearance, except for the lack of spots, and is slightly smaller (3 to 3½ inches long) than the spotted turtle. Though it has not been found in West Virginia, this secretive aquatic turtle is found in Maryland and Virginia counties adjacent to the West Virginia eastern panhandle. Thus it may occur in a few small swamps or marshes here. The wood turtle is a larger, primarily land-dwelling turtle normally 5½ to 7½ inches long. The wood turtle is found throughout the eastern panhandle, east of the Allegheny Mountains.

The spotted turtle may be found on either land or in water but most often resides in bogs, marshes, and small streams. They may bask on logs or float at the water's surface, but are very shy and dive quickly when disturbed. In West Virginia, spotted turtles seem to be most active from April through June. In winter, they burrow in the muddy bottom of a wetland or stream.

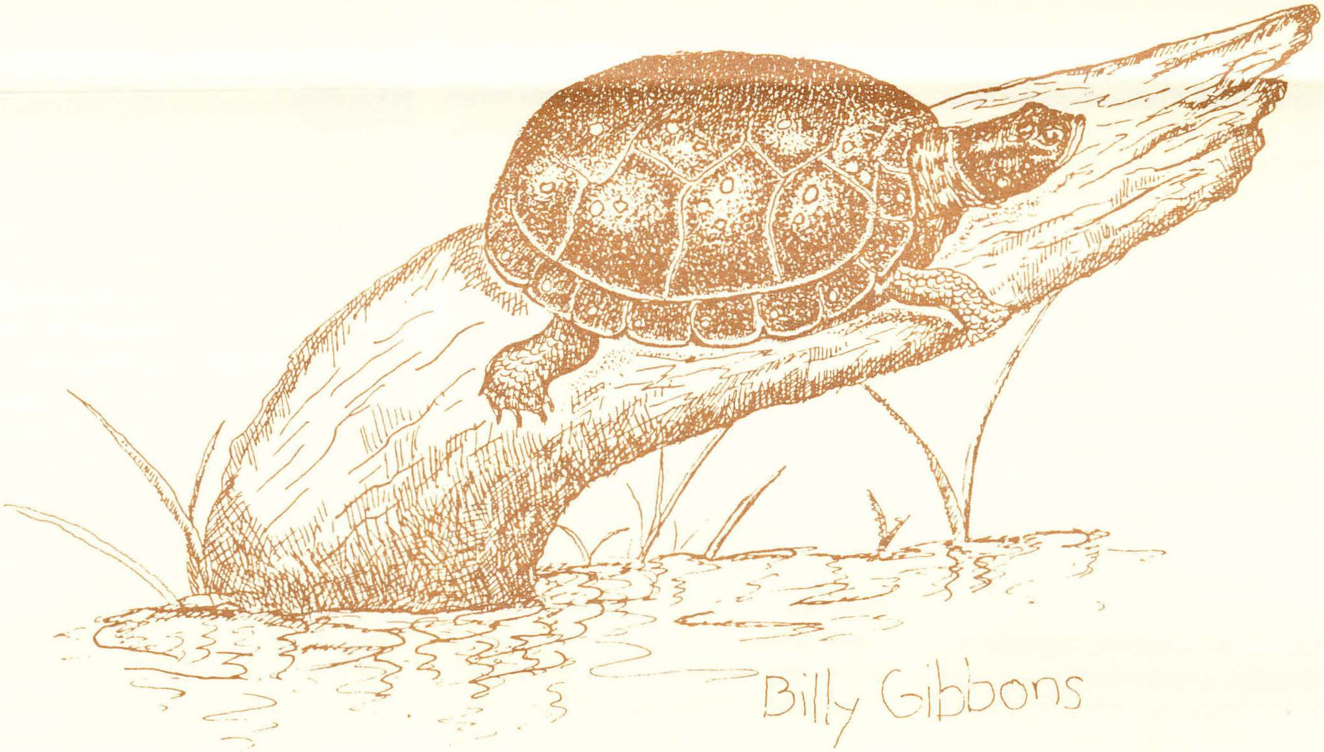
Their diet consists of both animals and plants. They eat insects, worms, snails, crayfish, and occasionally frogs, as well as grasses and algae. Predators include raccoon and skunks.

Courtship and mating occur in March and April. Eggs, normally 3 to 5 per clutch, are deposited in a small cavity dug by the female; incubation takes 10 to 12 weeks. Hatchlings are slightly over an inch long and may have a few yellow spots.

Spotted turtles are distributed from northern Florida north along the Coastal Plain to southern Maine and then west through Pennsylvania and New York to Michigan, northern Indiana, and northeastern Illinois. The known range just enters the eastern tip of West Virginia and may have once included part of the northern panhandle. However, suitable habitat is somewhat lacking in the State. This brings us back to the conclusion of our study.

On 26 July, after 58 days, all six radioed turtles were found to be still residing in their new environment. In the interim, some had made brief forays onto dry land but eventually returned to the marsh. This is encouraging, particularly when the terrestrial trips were made by females; perhaps a new generation has already been started.

The six turtles had made net movements of from 10 to 160 yards from the release point. The transmitters were removed from the turtles and each was released. The project was deemed a success, for now anyway. Long-term success will be measured by documenting reproduction at the new marsh and establishment of a self-sustaining population. In the future additional releases may be made in other suitable habitat, thus assuring the continued existence of the "polka-dot" turtle in West Virginia.



Spotted Turtle

Clemmys guttata

A Head For Business

By Donna Burks
Wildlife Resources Division

Many nongame birds occurring in West Virginia such as the brown creeper, nuthatches, and some wood warblers, possess special physical adaptations which enable them to pursue their diet of insects in and about tree trunks. However, none of these insect eaters are as well suited to this life style as are the woodpeckers. From their thick, shock-absorbing skulls to their stiff bracing tail feathers, woodpeckers are endowed with many specialized features.

Their hard, chisel-like beaks in combination with strong head and neck muscles facilitate tree trunk excavation for feeding. Once a woodpecker locates (usually by sound) and exposes an insect gallery, it inserts its extremely long, flexible, barbed tongue, which is coated with sticky saliva to extract its quarry. Woodpeckers have the ability to extend their tongue to greater lengths than most other birds as a result of their special muscular and skeletal characteristics. The elongated bones which support the tongue are encased by muscular sheaths, which allow for movement. Essentially, a woodpecker's tongue is attached in the right nostril. It splits into two parts which pass up and around both sides of the bird's head and under the jaw; there the halves reunite and enter the mouth through the floor of the beak. When not in use the tongue apparatus is compressed like an accordian.

Woodpeckers will also use their special head and bill adaptations in nest excavation and courtship. The birds are able to drill holes into living or dead trees (depending upon the species) for use as nests and/or shelter. The nostrils are protected from wood dust raised from this activity by short, bristle-like feathers. Many a woods walker has heard the tapping and drumming created by the hammering of the bill against a dead tree or branch of an amourous woodpecker attempting to attract a mate.

Woodpeckers adeptly adhere to trees by virtue of the fact that two toes face forward for clinging, one is turned laterally at a right angle to the tree trunk and one projects rearward for bracing. Most other birds have three toes forward, and only one behind. In addition, their strong, pointed tail feathers (called retrices) enable woodpeckers to prop themselves upright against the surface of a tree. To ensure that the tail will maintain this function, these feathers are lost only after the new ones have grown in to replace them.

The seven woodpeckers that occur in West Virginia are the common flicker, the hairy, downy, red-bellied, pileated, and red-headed woodpeckers, and the yellow-bellied sapsucker. All of these species share the aforementioned adaptations and are easily observed and recognizable due to their rather sedentary life style. Both sexes participate in nesting cavity excavation, incubation of eggs, and the care of young.

Flickers are the least arboreal feeders of West Virginia woodpeckers. They are often seen on lawns probing for ants which account for almost half of their diet. In fact, this bird eats more ants than any other North American bird. The flicker is probably the easiest of our woodpeckers to identify as it is the only brown-backed woodpecker in West Virginia. In addition, it has a white rump patch and the undulating flight common to most of the other woodpeckers.

Hairy and downy woodpeckers are often confused although the former is much larger and has a longer bill. The black bars on the outer white tail feathers of the downy are distinguishing features. These two species account for our only white-backed woodpeckers.

The red-bellied woodpecker is the only ladder-backed woodpecker with a red cap. This woodpecker is perhaps the most omnivorous of the five, as its diet consists of equal portions of animal and vegetable material. They often come to bird feeders to feed on sunflower seeds as well as the suet that is preferred by all woodpeckers.

Since the ivory-billed woodpecker is probably extinct, the distinction of being the only crested woodpecker falls to the pileated. Although not as common as the other species mentioned, its large size (roughly that of a crow) makes it rather conspicuous.

Large white wing patches and a head that is entirely red describes another of West Virginia's less common woodpeckers, the red-headed. Most often it is found in open country mixed with groves of dead and dying trees. This species was most abundant in our State during the peak of the chestnut blight, but its numbers have waned since that time. The removal of dead trees is one reason for this reduction. In addition, the appropriation of their nesting cavities by starlings has had a detrimental effect upon red-headed woodpecker populations.

The yellow-bellied sapsucker has also experienced a statewide decline in recent years. This quiet, inconspicuous woodpecker is best identified by its longitudinal white wing stripe. Sapsuckers are so called because they bore holes about ¼ inch in diameter into the inner bark of trees. This causes sap to ooze down the tree trunk where it is accessible to the yellow-bellied's brush-like tongue.

One of the best ways to ensure the continued existence of these birds is to leave some dead and dying trees in your woodlots and forests. Woodpeckers, like the majority of our nongame birds, are very beneficial creatures as they consume large quantities of insects. In addition, many people derive great pleasure from observing these unusual birds around feeders and in the wild.

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Editor

Ideas for articles are welcomed

For family and friends interested in wildlife, Dr. George A. Hall's book, *West Virginia Birds*, will make a unique and educational Christmas gift this year. This publication is the first comprehensive work ever to be published on this subject for the State. Not a field guide, the book contains the status, both current and historic, of over 300 bird species. Copies ($20.00 each) may be obtained from the Brooks Bird Club, 707 Warwood Avenue, Wheeling WV 26001; Publications Secretary, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, 4400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213; or your local bookstore.

First Edition of WV Wildlife Calendar

The WV Department of Natural Resources is now taking orders for the first edition of the WV Wildlife Calendar. Only $5.00, the 14 by 22 inch calendar features paintings by WV artists. Each print has a description of the animal depicted. In addition, the calendar includes information on wild flowers, bird migrations, hunting and fishing, plus a wealth of additional wildlife facts concerning both game and nongame animals. The calendar runs from September 1985 through August 1986. Proceeds will help support the Nongame Wildlife Program.

THE 1985-1986 WEST VIRGINIA WILDLIFE CALENDAR

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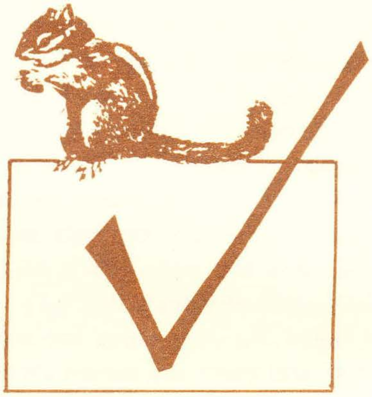

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